Cabinet sub-committee on Ram Janam Bhoomi and Babri Masjid issue

25. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1006 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th November, 1987 and state:

(a) whether the Group of Ministers appointed on April 27, 1987 to settle the Ram Janam Bhoomi and Babri Masjid issue has completed its deliberations; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the suggestions made by it and that action taken thereon and if not, by when the deliberations are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The group of Ministers is still seized of the issue. In view of the complexities involved, it is not possible to indicate any time frame by which it may complete its deliberations.

Inquiry against Shri Ajitabh Bachchan by the Directorate of Enforcement

26. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1002 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th November, 1987 and state:

(a) whether the inquiry against Shri Ajitabh Bachchan by the Directorate of Enforcement for alleged violation of FERA provisions has been completed;

(b) if so, what are the findings thereof and action taken thereon and if the inquiry has not yet been completed, by when it is liktly to be completed;

(c) whether Government propose to impound the passport of Shri Ajitabh Bachchan; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir. The investigations are in progress.

(b) While it may not be possible to indicate a fixed time limit for completion of investigations, all efforts are being made to expedite the investigations to the extent possible.

(c) and (d) As Shri Ajitabh Bachchan has been cooperating with the process of investigations and has been furnishing replies to the directives issued, seeking information/documents, there has been no necessity to consider impounding of his passport.

Observations of the study team on Tehri Dam Project

27. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study team of his Ministry has found that Tehri Dam Project in the earthquake prone zone could be disastrous for the life and property in Swargashram, Rishikesh and Haridwar areas; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the observations of the study team and the advice given by the team?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) The Export Group's observation on the location of the Tehri Dam in an active seismic Zone are the following:

—Estimated peak ground acceleration varies between 0.25 g to 0.56 g against the seismic coefficient of 0.15 g, recommended for the design of Tehri Dam.

—Likelihood of the occurrence of major earthquake in the area due to gap in seismicity immediately east of the rupture zone of the 1905 Kangra earthquake extending over 700 Km to that of 1954 Bihar earthquake.

The Expert Group recommended:

Development of a detailed tectonic model of the region to overcome the present limitations of data and understanding of the assumptions made.

Setting up of a seismic monitoring network.

Opening of branches of Banks in Bhiwani

28. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new branches of nationalised banks are proposed to be opened in Bhiwani (Haryana); and

(b) if so, what are the names of the nationalised banks whose branches are proposed to be opened and the location thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that under the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90, two licences for opening branches at urban centre Bhiwani of Haryana, have been issued. The details are set out below:

Name of the locality	Name of the allottee bank
Vikas Nagar	State Bank of Patiala.
Loharu Road	Union Bank of India.

Applications from freedom fighters of Hyderabad Freedom Movement for pension

29. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several applications from freedom fighters of Hyderabad Freedom Movement are pending under consideration;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof including the number of applications approved, the number of applications under consideration and the number of applications rejected along with the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when all the applications will be finally approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (c) There are 3 categories of freedom fighters who participated in the Hyderabad Freedom Movement, namely:—

(i) the general category of freedom fighters who had participated while staying within the erstwhile Hyderabad State;

(ii) those who participated in the merger movement and suffered abscondence or internment/externment but were unable to produce evidence and those who participated in the Camps set up on the borders of the erstwhile Hyderabad State during the merger movement; and

(iii) those who had participated in the Arya Samaj Movement of 1938-39.

As regards category (i), it is not possible to give the figures of the number of applications received and sanctioned in respect of erstwhile Hyderabad State because district-wise figures are not maintained and parts of the erstwhile Nizam State of Hyderabad have since been merged into the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra as a result of Re-organisation of States.

As for category (ii), about 19,000 applications were received and the Non-Official Hyderabad Special Screening Committee set up for scrutinising such claims have recommended grant of pension in about 6,550 cases while rejecting the remaining cases as the claims of participants were not found credible by the Committee.